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3 June 1954

NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Operating Problems in Respect to the [REDACTED] Agreement

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REFERENCE : AD/CI memorandum to AD/RR and AD/SI, dated 1 June 1954

1. The study referred to in the reference memorandum was undertaken by both Offices under terms of reference which were understood to be limited to an examination of the desirability of alternative methods of solving the problem posed by the decrease in personnel strength at NSA, and the proposed move of NSA to Fort Meade. Any consideration of the feasibility or saleability of alternate actions posed in the study were explicitly avoided. ORR and OSI both recognize that there may be overriding objections to some of the alternatives posed because of practical difficulties. They do feel, however, that the recommendations of the study are valid from the point of view of desirability. In any case, it is strongly felt that until a completed staff study has been finished, nothing further should be done.

2. Without recounting facts and figures, ORR and OSI are not now in a position to substantially augment the panels at [REDACTED] if they are to carry out their stated responsibilities and functions, and meet their commitments to the intelligence community. On the other hand, recognizing the value of this source material, both Offices will continue to send to the Hall as many competent analysts as possible for exploitation purposes, at the same time maintaining the balance necessary to provide the research support and finished intelligence required of ORR and OSI.

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3. Since the [REDACTED] agreement appears to be interpreted by OCI as a definite commitment by CIA to assure the proper staffing of the NSA Plain Text organization, ORR and OSI strongly recommend that the problem of augmenting the reduced panels be considered as an Agency problem rather than solely as a problem facing two producing Offices in the DB/I area.


4. The undersigned feel that it is important to take immediate steps to block the contemplated move of [REDACTED] and supporting units

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to Fort Meade. Last year at about this time we expressed to you this same view, and it is our feeling now that further delay is certain to make it more difficult to accomplish our purpose and might result in a needless expenditure of funds.

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Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

OTTO E. GUTHE
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

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